Makawao Union Church



December 5, 2021

The Second Sunday of Advent

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Congregational responses are printed in bold.

The Time of Preparation

Prelude *Meditation on "In the Bleak Midwinter"*

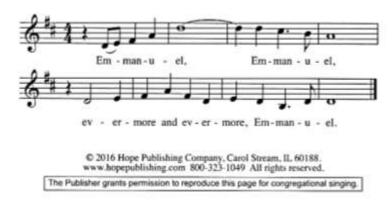
Regina Pozzi

Welcome and Announcements

Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

(Choir: "Of the Father's love begotten, ere the world began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he.")

Of the Father's Love Congregational part:



During Advent, we wait for the one promised in scripture.

And he will be called Mighty God.

We wait for the one whose power has no limits and whose strength knows no end.

And he will be called Mighty God.

We wait for the one whose everlasting light can illuminate the darkest night.

And he will be called Mighty God.

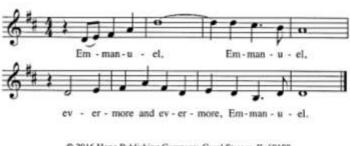
We wait for the one whose mercy never ends and whose faithfulness endures forever.

And he will be called Mighty God.

"Today we light two candles. The first candle reminds us of the Hope found in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. As we light the second candle, we reflect on the Joy found in serving a God who is almighty, all-knowing, and always present. Continuing our Advent journey, we joyfully celebrate a Savior who brings hope and a God whose power and strength have no limits."

(Choir: "Let the heights of heaven adore him; angel hosts his praises sing: powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King.")

Of the Father's Love Congregational part:



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(Choir ends: "Evermore and evermore, Emmanuel.")

Loving God, be to us as a bulldozer of the spirit. Clear your road in us; clear a path through the detritus of possessions and obsessions. Thrust aside our divided aims and devious games. Topple the ramparts of pride and the doubts that deride. Make a highway on which Christ may come and take possession of the whole territory of our being. To the glory of your name, we pray. **Amen!**

Written by Bruce Prewer

*Hymn The Baptist Shouts on Jordan's Shore

#115 NCH

(See Page 8)

Opening Prayer

May God be with you.

And also with you....

Let us pray.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

We Hear the Good News

Anthem In the Stillness Arlen Clarke

In the stillness of our darkness, In the shadows of the night; Earth is waiting for the promise, longing for the coming light.

Once before he came in blessing, Still he comes, our hearts to win; Come, Lord Jesus, come in glory, Let your heav'n on earth begin;

Come, Almighty to deliver, Let us all Thy grace receive; Suddenly return, and never, Never more our presence leave.

Light of Light shine through our darkness, Turn our night to radiant day; Come, Lord Jesus, come in glory, Open all our hearts to praise.

Scripture Readings

Malachi 3:1-4

Judy Anderson

Luke 3:1-6

Philippians 1:3-11

Sermon "O Love that Will Not Let Me Go." Rev. B. David Williams

We Respond with Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

Giving Our Tithes and Offering

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Christ's table is open to all. We ask you to hold your elements so that we all might partake of the bread and cup together.

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Can you be a voice crying in the wilderness?

Can you proclaim that God is active in the world?

Maybe?

The time is near, of the crowning of the year.

We sing with angels, setting the roadways and the buildings humming

As people who are being changed, we go into a world that is being changed.

Ready to share the Good News that the long-expected Jesus is coming, that we are being freed from whatever binds us.

Glory be to God!

Who walks with us, sings with us, and struggles with us, each and every day. Amen

*Hymn

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

#43 NCH

(See Page 9)

*Benediction

*The Queen's Prayer (vs. 1)

#580

'O kou aloha nō, Aia i ka lani A 'o kou 'oiā i'o, He hemolele ho'i. 'Āmene.

Your loving mercy is as high as heaven and your truth so perfect.

Postlude

Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates

Wilbur Held

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Deacons are requesting for a few red poinsettias to grace our Altar during Advent & Christmas. Individuals are welcomed to share your poinsettia for services on Dec 12, 19, 24, as you are able. Then please take them home.

Next Sunday, December 12th we will install the church Officers. Please plan on attending in-person if you can. The Deacons are hosting an Aloha Hour after church services.

Secondhand Heaven will be closed from December 22nd through January 1st, 2022. They will reopen on January 5th 2022 and continue their same hours on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9AM to 2PM.

Please continue supporting MUC with your time, talents and treasures.

To make a donation please visit our website at www.makawaounionchurch.org and look for the **Donate** button at the bottom of the screen or you can send your donations via US Postal service to our mailing address:

Makawao Union Church PO Box 790071 Paia, HI 96779

Mahalo to the following for their talents and service:

To The **Rev. B. David Williams** who has filled our pulpit today.

To **Terry & Richard Rose** for being our greeters.

To **Bill Kepler** for serving as the Worship Leader.

To **Joy Webster** for lighting the stained-glass windows "in honor of Mom and Dad."

To the **Slaughter-Gamble/McCleary family** for the flowers on the pulpit in "in loving memory of Pastor Judy Slaughter."

To **Richard & Terry Rose** for lighting the second Advent Candle.

To Judy Anderson for being our Scripture Reader.

To Judy Anderson, Bill Kepler, Chris Kepler, Kiele Kepler, John Rowehl, Jay Slaughter, Leah Tinkelman and Dave Williams for our music today.

To Chris Kepler and Peter Kim for being our Tech hosts today.

Upcoming Events

Dec 7	2:00PM	Deacon's Meeting, Rose's Residence
Dec 8	9:00AM	Secondhand Heaven, Community Hall
Dec 9	4:00PM	Council Meeting, Narthex
Dec 10	6:30PM	Alcoholics Anonymous, Sanctuary
Dec 11	8:30AM	Men's Breakfast, Kula Bistro
Dec 12	9:00AM	Choir Rehearsal
	10:30AM	Worship – Third Advent/Officer Installation
	11:30AM	Aloha Hour – Hosted by the Deacons
Dec 15	9:00AM	Secondhand Heaven, Community Hall
Dec 17	6:30PM	Alcoholics Anonymous, Sanctuary
Dec 18	9:00AM	Secondhand Heaven, Community Hall
Dec 19	9:00AM	Choir Rehearsal
	10:30AM	Worship – Christmas Sunday
Dec 24	6:30PM	Choir Rehearsal
	8:00PM	Worship - Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary
Dec 25	** Merry Christmas **	
Dec 26	9:00AM	Choir Rehearsal
	10:30AM	Worship – First Sunday after Christmas
Dec 31	6:30PM	Alcoholics Anonymous, Sanctuary
	** New Year's Eve **	

Malachi 3:1-4

3 See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Luke 3:1-6

3 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias

ruler of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵ Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.""

Philippians 1:3-11

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

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The Baptist Shouts on Jordan's Shore

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- 5 Your hands ex-tend, our pain em-brace, lift up the pros-trate, show your face; Though we in part your beau-ty know, O blos-som forth, your splen-dor show.
- 6 O One who comes to set us free, O Child, to you our song will be, With Fa-ther, Spir-it moth-er-ing, to you shall praise for-ev-er ring!

